

Senate Human Services  
Senate Bill 2112  
Monday, January 13, 2025

Chair Lee, Members of the Committee:

I'm Angela Dinius, the executive director of the North Dakota Association of Community Providers (NDACP). Our members are the organizations across the state that provide essential services and supports to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). I am here to express our opposition to Senate Bill 2112.

As stated in section 25-04-02, the purpose of the life skills and transition center is to serve as a specialty care and support resource for eligible individuals with developmental disabilities who are experiencing crisis or who would benefit from stabilization. We understand there is a need for services for individuals who do not meet the eligibility criteria for developmental disability (DD) services. However, we do not think that LSTC is the best setting to address the needs of these individuals.

We are concerned about the impact to DD services provided by LSTC. Providers across the state, including LSTC, are experiencing significant staffing shortages. We worry that diverting their limited resources, including staff, funding, and physical space, to accommodate these individuals could reduce the quality and availability of critical services for individuals currently served within the DD system.

We ask you to oppose this bill. And we urge the department to explore other options that ensure both populations receive the appropriate services and level of care. Thank you for your time. I'm happy to answer any questions.

Angela Dinius  
Executive Director  
North Dakota Association of Community Providers